

Arizona takes step toward turning criminal justice data into actionable information

By: Guest Opinion | April 20, 2021



Arizona, like the majority of states around our nation, has placed an emphasis on reviewing laws and policies that govern our state's criminal justice systems in order to promote greater efficiency and fairness for our citizens.

As part of this call for action, there has been a growing demand by policymakers and special interest groups that criminal justice agencies begin reporting on what criminal justice data should be collected has been the loudest in a crowded room.



Andrew LeFevre

This call for more data brings a "poor" that was first used in the "Excellence," to describe organizational processes to produce meaningful competitive advantage. Well, this organization with its many successful integration and fusion of data.

That is why the Arizona Legislature is applauded for their foresight in passing this law.

This law will designate the Arizona Department of Corrections as the central collection agency for criminal justice data for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive survey of data from criminal justice state criminal justice data inventory report identifying

Through this effort, Arizona will be establishing a first-



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the Legislature by the beginning of the 2022 session that will outline the costs associated with building a state system that will electronically collect and report the identified data from criminal justice agencies that can be reported out via a web-based platform – much like the commission’s current Data Visualization Center does on our website.

The net result of HB2166 will be to give Arizona the best chance at creating a process that will ensure long-term success in collecting criminal justice data in a way that allows policymakers to turn data into information upon which they can make sound policy decisions.

As Arizona looks ahead to the future, we should recognize that while this is a critical step in the right direction, this is only the first step in creating better criminal justice reform practices.

– *Andrew T. LeFevre is executive director for the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission.*

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